

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A device having electronic circuitry powered by at least one battery, the device comprising:
  - 5 a housing;
  - a first compartment formed within said housing;
  - at least one first battery contained within said first compartment;
  - a second compartment formed within said housing; and
  - at least one second battery contained within said second compartment,
- 10 wherein said electronic circuitry is not powered by one of said first battery and said second battery at any point in time.
2. The device as described in claim 1 further including a switch, wherein said switch may be activated to operatively couple either said first or second battery to said 15 electronic circuitry.
3. The device as described in claim 2 wherein said activation occurs automatically.
- 20 4. The device of claim 3, wherein said automatic activation occurs when a power of one of said first and second batteries falls below a predetermined threshold.
5. The device as described in claim 2 wherein said switch is activated manually.

6. A device having electronic circuitry powered by at least one battery, the device comprising:
  - a housing;
  - a first compartment formed within said housing;
  - 5 at least one first battery contained within said first compartment;
  - a second compartment formed within said housing;
  - at least one second battery contained within said second compartment,wherein said electronic circuitry is not powered by one of said first battery and said second battery at any point in time; and
  - 10 a switch, wherein said switch may be activated to operatively couple either said first or second battery to said electronic circuitry.
7. The device as described in claim 6 wherein said activation occurs automatically.
  - 15 8. The device of claim 6, wherein said automatic activation occurs when a power of one of said first and second batteries falls below a predetermined threshold.
  9. The device as described in claim 6 wherein said switch is activated manually.

10. A device having electronic circuitry powered by at least one powering battery,  
the device comprising:  
a housing;  
a first compartment formed within said housing, wherein said at least one  
powering battery is contained within said first compartment;  
a second compartment formed within said housing; and  
at least one spare battery contained within said second compartment, wherein  
said electronic circuitry is not powered by said spare battery when said spare battery  
is contained within said second compartment.

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